

OBSEQUIES OF A BRONX FIREMAN.

The funeral services of the late A. J. S. Degraw, who died on the morning of the 11th inst., at the residence of his wife, Mrs. M. E. Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., were held at the residence of his wife, Mrs. M. E. Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., on the morning of the 11th inst. The services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. J. P. Kennedy of New-Haven, Ct., who was formerly pastor of the congregation to which the deceased belonged. The Rev. Mr. Osborne made the opening prayer, when the Rev. Dr. delivered a discourse on the character and virtues of the deceased, taking in his text the 1st verse of the 27th chapter of Proverbs: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for ye know not what a day may bring forth." He drew therefrom that all should be prepared to meet their God, for they knew not when their time would come. It will be recalled that the accident which resulted in the death of Mr. Degraw occurred at a fire in Court street on Monday morning last, and was caused by the falling of a wall of the burning building. He was extricated as speedily as possible, but it was at once evident that he could not survive. The best medical aid was procured, but he was beyond the reach of human skill, and he breathed his last shortly before 1 o'clock the following day. Having been associated with the Fire Department for many years, and also connected with other institutions, he was generally known throughout the city, and the news of his untimely end created a deep sensation among all classes, and especially among the firemen. He was also well known as a "Change in New-York," where he had been long in association with business men, among whom he had established a large circle of friends. Although still a young man, he was a successful merchant and had accumulated a considerable amount of property.

The Fire Department turned out en masse to pay the last debt to his remains. They formed in line on the sidewalk about the City Park under the direction of the Chief-Engineer, Israel D. Velsor, and Assistant-Engineers Messrs. Reeve, Atwater, Taylor, Bell and Staley. The banner of the Department, draped in mourning, was borne in front by the Engine Firemen, and all the Engine, Hose, Hook and Ladder and Bucket Companies followed in reverse order, the highest number (32 Engine) taking the lead, and No. 1 Bucket Company bringing up the rear of the Department of the Western District.

The Department of the Eastern District followed with their banner, which was supported by Neptune Engine Company, No. 7—Eagle Company, No. 6, bringing up the rear. The President of the Department, Mr. B. W. Wilson, officiated as Marshal, assisted by Charles C. Talbot, Chief-Engineer, and Wm. Meeks, Assistant.

A numerous delegation of the New York Firemen and others brought up the rear of the procession. The church in which the services were conducted not being of sufficient capacity to accommodate all who would assemble on the occasion, the Presbyterian Church on the corner of Clinton and Amity streets was obtained for the firemen, to which they proceeded and listened to a discourse suitable to the occasion, delivered by the Rev. Mr. Smith of the Harrison street Dutch Reformed Church, who selected for his text the 2d verse, chap. vii, of Ecclesiastes: "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to heart."

After these services, they proceeded to the Pacific-Cemetery, and marching around the coffin, viewed the body of the deceased. The procession then proceeded to Greenwood Cemetery, Hook and Ladder Co. No. 4 preceding the hearse, and the remains were deposited in the family vault. The Trustees of the Fire Department acted as pall-bearers.

The procession was one of the largest ever seen in Brooklyn. It was estimated at between 2,000 and 3,000, of which about 1,500 were firemen. The flags of the City Hall were struck at half-mast, the engine houses were all draped in emblems of mourning, and the fire-bells tolled during the marching of the procession. It was a solemn spectacle and will long be remembered.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

WRECK OF SCHOONER PACIFIC AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The schooner Pacific, from Washington, N. C., loaded with naval stores, bound to New-York, went ashore on Long Beach, N. J., on the night of the 21st inst., during the heavy snow-storm, and all on board were frozen to death except Captain Dimore Pharo, and mate, (whose name is Pickett), who were not ashore. The Captain died shortly after his rescue from the wreck. His remains will be brought to New-York in charge of the mate. On the 21st inst., the date of our correspondent's letter, the cargo had not been discharged.

LOSS OF A SPANISH BARK.—The Spanish bark Duke de Braganza, Liza, also went ashore on Long Beach, a short distance south of the schooner Pacific, and lays bottom side up on the beach. She appeared to have been abandoned, as no boats, baggage or dead bodies could be seen on the beach.

DISASTER TO THE SCHOONER ORIN COVE.—Capt. Smith of the schooner Orin Cove, arrived yesterday morning from Porto Cabello, reports that on the 21st inst., at 5 a. m., while at anchor off the Hook, his vessel was run into by the schooner Abd-el-Kader, from Potomac River for New-York, and was cut down nearly to the water's edge. The crew succeeded in getting on board the A. K., which lay by her until daylight. They then attempted to board the O. C., but could not, as the wind blew too heavy. The A. K. came up to the city for assistance. On the return of the captain, with the steamer Screamer, he found the vessel in charge of the pilot boat New-York, No. 3, which chartered the steamer and brought the O. C. to the dock at Quarantine. The pilot boat New-York, No. 8, when about five miles from Sandy Hook, yesterday (10th inst.), about 10 a. m., was hailed by a man on board the Orin Cove. The man called loudly for help. He proved to be a passenger left on board at the collision above referred to. The pilot boat took the O. C. in tow, after pumping her out as above narrated. Her cargo consisted of coffee, cochineal, &c., and is consigned to White & Diamond of this city.

THE SOUND NAVIGATION.—The two Sound steamers, Connecticut and Bay State, left on Thursday evening at the regular hour. The Worcester, of the Stonington line, having arrived at a late hour, did not leave until 1 a. m. yesterday. The Connecticut got to New-London yesterday morning at 1 o'clock, when the passengers were forwarded in the cars to Boston, where they arrived at 12 m. yesterday. There was a great deal of ice in the river, but it was thought that the Connecticut would work her way up to Norwich by 12 o'clock. The steamers Empire State and Commodore from Fall River and Stonington, arrived yesterday at 12 m. No boat was due yesterday from New-York in consequence of that line having recently lost its regular trip.

The steamers Empire State, Commodore, and Commonwealth, of the Boston lines, all went out last evening. The steamers Elm City and Traveler, which ply between this city and New-Haven, have thus far kept up their regular trips. These boats usually come in about 5 a. m.; but the arrival of the Traveler was delayed yesterday till 12 m., in consequence of ice in the East River, on account of which, and the enormous quantity of freight to be discharged and received on board, her departure last evening was also deferred till a very hour. Yesterday morning five steamboats bound to this city—the Commodore, Empire State, Champion, Traveler and John L. Lockwood—were all in the vicinity of Throg's Point, battling with the ice from the hour of 10 o'clock. The J. L. Lockwood is a small class steam-boat, and would not have succeeded but for the presence of the larger boats.

STILL KATHY STILL ASHORE.—The steamer Leviathan, Capt. Hazard, came up to the city yesterday

afternoon, 11th, from the ship Kathy, ashore on Ronger Shoals, bringing the passengers with her. Capt. H. reports the ship as lying in the same position, but in consequence of the low state of the tides could not get her off, but he thinks in all probability she will be got off this morning, 12th. She has received no material damage and the present moderate weather is very much in her favor. The following are the names of the passengers by the Kathy: The Rev. Mr. Culbertson, lady and three children, missionaries; Miss Dubois, Capt. Churchill, of bark Esperanza, sold at Shanghai.

SCHOONER SUNK BY THE ICE.—The schooner Ella Simmons, lying at the mouth of the ship to the screw deck, in the East River, was yesterday (11th) cut through by the ice and sunk.

DISASTER AT CURTISVILLE.—The bark Spirit of the Sea, with fruit, is ashore at Curtisville, N. C. She is bilged, but will probably be got off. The bark Venezuela, from Porto Cabello for Philadelphia, with hides and coffee, also went ashore at Curtisville, and was totally wrecked. Part of her cargo of hides was saved.

ICE IN JAMES RIVER, VA.—The United States mail-steamship Jamestown, Captain Parish, arrived yesterday morning from Jamestown, Va. She reports large quantities of ice in the James River, and found the navigation entirely obstructed by it above City Point. It was more than a foot thick above that place.

ICE-BOUND SCHOONERS AT SANDY HOOK.—The pilot-boat New-York reports a large number of schooners at anchor under the Hook, all more or less disabled in spars, sails, &c. They are ice-bound, and cannot get up to the city without the aid of steam.

THE STORM AT HOLMES'S HOLE.—A correspondent of the Secretary of the Board of Underwriters writes from Holmes's Hole, Jan. 6:

"We had a very heavy north-east gale here last night, during which the schr. Arctura of Saco, from New-York, with a cargo of cement, drove on shore. She is in good order, and will come off after discharging. The bark Tamarang of Philadelphia, from New-Orleans, also drove on shore. She is light, and will come off after discharging. The schr. Ariadne of this port, from New-York, is ashore, with loss of bowsprit. A small English schooner, Providence, is ashore high and dry. The bark Emma Cushing, from New-Orleans, also drove ashore slightly and without damage. The schr. H. H. Moulton, from Georgetown, S. C., for Boston, was totally dismantled in consequence of the bark Warren Hallett from Mobile getting aloft of her. The Warren Hallett had her stern badly damaged. The storm was severe here, with very high tide."

ICE IN THE EAST RIVER.—A correspondent writes from Walnut Grove, (Throg's Neck) 11 o'clock, Jan. 11, 1886, as follows:

"The East River at Throg's Neck and Flushing Bay is entirely obstructed by ice; also, Long Island Sound as far as the eye can reach. The steamboats Commodore, Traveller, and another large boat, also, the steam tugboat J. K. Lockwood and some schooners, are all lying in the ice off White Stone Point."

THE MORALS OF EXCESSIVE EATING.
To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: Those who are familiar with the Memoirs of the Rev. Sidney Smith, recently published in two volumes, will hardly fail to recognize the following extract from that curious work, found in Vol. 2, at page 470, in a letter addressed to Lord Murray:

"You are, I hear, attending more to diet than heretofore. If you wish for anything like happiness in the fifth of life, eat and drink about as I have done. I have never been so preserved in life as you are, and I attribute it to eating and drinking. Having ascertained the weight of what I could live upon so as to preserve health and strength, and what I did live upon, I found that between ten and seventeen years of age I had eaten and drunk 44 horse-wagon loads of meat and drink, and that I had preserved my health and strength. The value of this mass of nourishment I considered to be worth 47,000 sterling. It occurred to me that I must, by my voracity, have starved to death fully one hundred. This is a frightful calculation, but irresistibly true; and I think, dear Murray, your wagons would require an additional horse."

Now I confess I do not fully understand what Mr. Smith means in every particular. He had been, in reality, a poor man—sometimes very poor—for about two thirds of that long period; and when his circumstances began to be improved, he found himself compelled to live on a plain diet, and to abstain from the indulgence in avoid great and immediate suffering from the gout. Yet, poor as he was, he had doubtless been trained to what we Americans, well fed though we are, should call a full table, with moderate abundance was possible. And yet, with the most liberal allowance for this and other circumstances, it is hard to believe his estimate, which he maintains to be "irresistibly true," must not have embraced some element of correctness. Why, \$35,000 for 60 years, are a fraction more than \$584 a year! Could any poor man, even an English peasant, have wasted \$584 a year for 60 years in the mere matter of eating and drinking?

As to the amount, in wagon loads, of his 60 years waste, there need be no room for scruple. With us, it is not probably much less; in many conditions of society much more. But then in these 44 wagon loads which I have set down as the average waste of every individual for 60 years who lives to the age of 70, I should include not only the food and drink, but the clothing, the other trivials, nuts, confectionery, &c., for these are as properly food as anything else. The aggregate waste for a nation is enormous. Why, if the loaded wagons of food which the 35,000,000 of the United States would waste in 60 years, according to the above estimate, were piled along the coast of our country, they would make a distance of two wagon loads, they would form 280 rows or circles, encompassing our globe! Our readers may calculate for themselves, and see whether the deductions, if not the data, as far as they are ours, are not, and must not be "irresistibly true."

The waste of this waste, however, in our country, would fall very far short of \$35,000 to each quantum of forty-four horse-wagon loads. Either, therefore, there must be some flaw in Mr. Smith's estimate—I mean this particular—or his food must have been much more costly than our own, or he must have reckoned the food of his time, instead of the food of the time of his country. One thing, however, is quite conceivable—namely, more, quite probable. It is a generally conceded fact, among those who are best qualified to judge, that we of the United States, as a general rule, eat about twice as much as the best interests of our systems require. My own observations would lead me to think have not behind other men, either as regards extent or accuracy, go not only to confirm this long-asserted fact, but somewhat further. I believe we eat, as a nation, more than twice as much as we ought; and hence, as there is a vast difference, and one large portion (the slaves) do not greatly exceed their real wants, it follows that we consume much more than one half of what we really consume—perhaps more nearly two thirds. Further than even this I am compelled to go, and to say most unhesitatingly and unequivocally, that much less than half the money we actually expend for food, if expended as the best interests of the country and economy by their excess, thus unnecessarily and greatly increase our present aggregate of mere gustatory or animal enjoyment.

Admit these premises, however—and I do not believe any one who has duly investigated the subject will hesitate to do so—and it follows that the waste of food of our families in the present time, if my family of the same size. Whether, in the language of Mr. Smith, each of our families may be said to starve out a hundred other families, I do not know; though I seriously doubt it. But in maintenance of my own position, and admitting the universal tendency of the population of a country to keep up with its means of support, I am compelled to the conclusion that such a waste of food in the present time, if my family of the same size, thus unnecessarily and greatly increase our present aggregate of mere gustatory or animal enjoyment.

But if such is the case, and if my family have we duly considered the magnitude of the guilt? If each family prevents the existence and enjoyment of life by another family like itself, then the aggregate five millions of families in the United States prevent or preclude the aggregate enjoyment of that temporal life and happiness which God is ready to provide—saying nothing of the life eternal and spiritual—of another nation like itself. And if such is the case, and if my family have we duly considered the magnitude of the guilt? If each family prevents the existence and enjoyment of life by another family like itself, then the aggregate five millions of families in the United States prevent or preclude the aggregate enjoyment of that temporal life and happiness which God is ready to provide—saying nothing of the life eternal and spiritual—of another nation like itself. And if such is the case, and if my family have we duly considered the magnitude of the guilt? 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